

**Spreader Project of Neyveli Lignite Corporation**

10. SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the progress achieved in the commissioning of the Spreader Project of the Neyveli Lignite Corporation Limited, Neyveli;

(b) whether the schedule for delivery of two Spreaders has expired long back and the contractors both Indian and foreign have sought further extension of time;

(c) if so, the facts and details thereof; and

(d) the total payment made so far both in Indian and foreign currencies?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) The supply and erection of the first 20,000 tonne/hour Spreader of the Second Mine Expansion Project has been completed and it is scheduled to be commissioned on 10/4/1990. The supply of second 20,000 tonne/hour Spreader of this Project has also been completed. Its erection is presently in progress and it is scheduled to be commissioned on 10/12/1990.

(b) and (c). Yes, Sir. As per original schedule, the Spreader I was to be commissioned, complete in all respects, by 10.4.89 and Spreader II by 10.8.89. The commissioning of the two Spreaders has got delayed due to land acquisition problem, difficulties in procurement of steel, non-availability of required quality of steel, erection difficulties and modifications suggested by the consultants. The extension of time was sought for by the suppliers which was examined in depth and extension was granted to complete the jobs as per schedule given in answer to part (a) of the Question.

(d) The details of amount spent by NLC till 28/2/1990 in Indian and foreign currencies

are as under:—

DM 567.51 Lakhs

Rs.3226.31 Lakhs.

**Appointment of Chairman, ONGC**

11. SHRI M.V. CHANDRA SHEKARA-MURTHY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the post of the Chairman, Oil and Natural Gas Commission is lying vacant;

(b) if so, since when; and

(c) when the final decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M.S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) to (c). Vice Chairman, Oil and Natural Gas Commission (ONGC) is holding the charge of the post of Chairman, O.N.G.C. since the previous incumbent relinquished charge on 15.12.1989. Action for the appointment of a regular Chairman is in hand.

**Jammu-Udhampur Railway Line**

12. SHRI PIYARE LAL HANDOO: Will the Minister of RAILWAY be pleased to state:

(a) the estimated expenditure incurred on the construction of railway line from Jammu to Udhampur and the progress achieved, year-wise since the work on the project was started; and

(b) the steps taken to expedite the work?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) Year-wise details of expenditure incurred and progress achieved is as under:—